

Amendments to the Claims:

Please rewrite the claims as set forth below. The listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A non-hygroscopic composition, for use in preparing a tablet by wet granulation, containing at least one quinoline carboxylic acid antibacterial agent, less than 3% water, and a from 10% wt/wt to 35% wt/wt stabilizer, said stabilizer ~~comprising a second acid source, said second acid source~~ selected from the group consisting of inorganic acids and additional organic acids.

2. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the stabilizer is selected from the group consisting of hydrochloric, sulfuric or phosphoric acid, anhydrous citric acid, hydrated citric acid, fumaric acid, malic acid, maleic acid, tartaric acid, glutaric acid, benzensulfonic acid, benzoic acid and salicylic acid.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the amount of stabilizer is 20 to 35% wt/wt.

5. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the amount of stabilizer is around 35% wt/wt.

6. (Previously Presented) The composition of line 1 wherein the quinoline carboxylic acid is norfloxacin.

7. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 4 containing, by weight, 60 to 70% norfloxacin and 20 to 35% of a stabilizer.

8. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 7 wherein the composition contains at least 65% by weight of norfloxacin.

9. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition also contains inert diluents such as filler/binder, a disintegrant and/or a lubricant.

10. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 9 wherein the composition contains 5 to 15% of a binder/filler, 1 to 5% of a disintegrant and/or 0.5 to 2% of a lubricant.

11. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10 wherein the stabilizer is anhydrous citric acid, the filler/binder is a microcrystalline cellulose, the disintegrant is sodium starch glycollate and the lubricant is magnesium stearate.

12. (Previously Presented) A tablet prepared from the composition of claim 1.

13. (Previously Presented) A tablet of claim 12 which has a conventional film coating.

14–19. (Cancelled)